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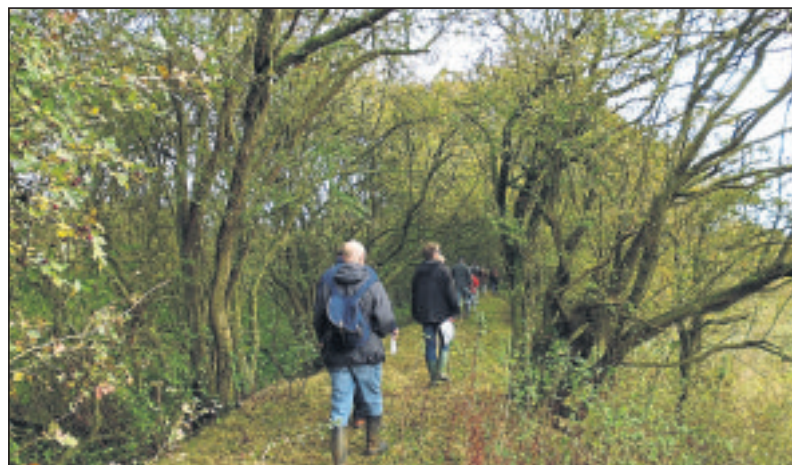
## Munition marvels

A FORGOTTEN world is being unearthed this month as Banbury Museum revives its popular tours of the town's First World War munitions filling factory.

In the fields beyond Overthorpe Road, visitors can still see part of the ruins of the factory, which filled shells used on the Italian front in 1917.

Visitors will once again have a chance to explore the site on Saturday, May 13, more than 90 years after its closure.

Turn to page 3 for more.



Community rallies around after vandals destroy 'baby tree'

# NEW MEMORIAL TREE CEREMNOY

The community has rallied around after a tree dedicated to babies that died was hit by heartless vandals.

Families from all over Banbury are invited to a re-dedication of the 'baby tree' in People's Park this week after the first one was destroyed.

The memorial, decorated with ribbons and poignant messages for babies who did not get the chance to live, was found snapped in half the day before Mother's Day.

But less than two months on from the devastation, residents, local representatives and Horton General Hospital campaigners have pulled together for a replacement.

On Friday, May 12, a new tree with the salvaged ribbons tied on will be planted in the park at a blessing ceremony.

Val Ingram, a spokeswoman for the Save Our Horton campaign, said the first tree appeared to have been vandalised.

She said: "We retrieved the ribbons so that they were safe because it was causing quite a lot of upset, and went about arranging for a replacement."

Permission has been granted by Banbury Town Council to plant a replacement, which is likely to be a field maple.

Horton View-based funeral directors Edd Frost & Daughters donated £80 towards the new tree. Mr Frost said: "We look after a lot of baby funerals in the area and it's very important to us that the families are given support."

Hannah Somerville  
hannah.somerville@nqo.com

"We were mortified to hear of what happened, on the Mothering Sunday weekend, and we felt something should be done quickly."

The re-dedication ceremony will take place from 1pm to 4pm in the park and those that hung ribbons on the previous tree will be invited to do so again.

The tree will be blessed by the Rev Philip Cochrane, vicar at St Mary's Church.

It will be planted by Banbury MP Victoria Prentis and Karen Hancox of bereavement charity Oxfordshire SANDS, with a plaque explaining its significance placed alongside it.

Mrs Ingram added that in the interim period, a small, mystery third tree had also appeared in the same part of the park, which the council is also permitting to stay.

She said: "We don't know whether it was someone who felt upset, or the perpetrators."

Ms Hancox said: "It's a very valuable gesture that a lot of families will benefit from. A lot of people had already been visiting the tree and getting a lot of comfort from it."

"My daughter has a ribbon on there and my children like to see it; quite often it's difficult finding tangible things for siblings to gain comfort from. It's good for the whole family."



Karen Hancox, of Oxfordshire SANDS, and Banbury MP Victoria Prentis plant the original 'baby tree' in October

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Have your say on trust's future

PEOPLE in Oxfordshire are being invited to have their say on the future of an NHS trust.

Residents have the opportunity to vote for the governor of their choice in the election for the Council of Governors at Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust.

Governors are made up of the public, staff, patients and carers. They join discussions alongside the board of directors – representing the views of members in their constituency.

Director of corporate affairs and company secretary Kerry Rogers said: “By voting individuals are able to pick the person that they think would best represent their voice on local healthcare topics.”

Bosses at the trust recently said they could review meeting rules after the *Oxford Mail* called for more transparency.

It came during a meeting of Trust’s board of directors on Wednesday in Unipart House, Cowley.

The board has been required to hold meetings in public since 2012 but the *Mail* raised concerns after a reporter was stopped from leaving the room with copies of documents provided to the public.

To vote in the election, a resident must be a member of the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust. Those that aren’t already members can register online at [bit.ly/2qJdK1](http://bit.ly/2qJdK1)

There are 12 governor vacancies to be filled in this year’s election. To read each candidate’s election statement and decide who to vote for visit [bit.ly/2p880Bh](http://bit.ly/2p880Bh)

Votes must be made by Wednesday, May 24. Results will be published the following day, Thursday, May 25.

School opens ‘stay and play’ centre for children

New facility follows the closure of former hub axed after funding cuts

Hannah Somerville  
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A NEW facility for young families feeling the absence of the local children’s centre has opened at Bloxham Primary School.

From this week, the school in Tadmorton Road is running stay and play sessions at its brand new Cherry Tree Centre within the grounds.

Parents with children aged five and under are invited to use the space, which features toys, a baby area and crafts, from 9.30am to 11am on Mondays and Wednesdays. Headteacher Matthew Ingall said: “We have so much to be thankful for here at Bloxham Primary School.

“We wouldn’t have been able to open our new Cherry Tree centre without the support of our local parish councils, for example.

“I’d like to thank and congratulate everyone involved with the school, not least of all our wonderful children and staff for all their hard work and commitment.”

The Cherry Tree Centre aims to offer an alternative to sessions formerly run at the Butterfly Children’s Centre, which closed earlier this year due to funding cuts. It follows a string of national awards for the school and a positive Ofsted report that praised its ‘warm, open and supportive culture’.

Earlier this year Mr Ingall was recognised as a ‘National Leader in Education’ under a government scheme in which the best school leaders offer support to other schools.

At the end of March the school was also awarded Artsmark Gold, which celebrates schools that champion the arts and strive for excellence. It received a ‘good’ rating from Ofsted following an inspection on March 8, in which inspectors noted children ‘enjoy coming to school’ and were ‘well looked-after’.

They added: “Pupils’ achievement is measured accurately and staff provide effective support where pupils need to catch up.”

As well as the Cherry Tree Centre, Bloxham Primary is offering a wraparound care scheme from 8am to 6pm for children to join breakfast and after-school clubs.

Anyone in the Bloxham area interested in using the new Cherry Tree Centre should call 01295 720224.



Matthew Ingall, head teacher, Michell Coles, Year 3 teacher and school music teacher with the Artsmark Gold Certificate, and Julie Oatridge, deputy head teacher

# CHERWELL

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# Dad backs charity with fundraising canoe race

Father-of-three undertakes 'Everest' of canoe journeys in honour of son who died of heart defect

Callum Keown  
ckeown@nqo.com

A FATHER whose son died 13 years ago has completed a gruelling 24-hour canoe race in his memory to raise thousands for Oxford Children's Hospital.

Will Harte's son Charlie was born with a congenital heart defect and died before his first birthday, despite the devoted care and support from doctors and nurses at the Horton General and the John Radcliffe Hospital.

Will, a 49-year-old member of Banbury Canoe Club, took on the Everest of Canoeing last month, going 125 miles from Devizes to Westminster with his paddling partner Neil Urquhart.

He said: "When Charlie died it was a tough time for us all and I have always wanted to do something to raise money in his memory – it's just taken me 13 years to do it.

"He spent a lot of time in the Horton and the John Radcliffe Hospital and the doctors and nurses were excellent.

"My wife and I decided I should raise money for our local hospitals.

"When I found out it was the 10th anniversary of the children's hospital as well it made perfect sense and it was great to be able to raise so much."

He added: "I had always intended to do the Devizes to Westminster race – it's like the London Marathon for canoeing and I was so happy to do it for the hospital."

Mr Harte, who lives in Barford St Michael, near Banbury, completed the 125-mile course over the Easter weekend in a time of 24 hours and 14 minutes.

But the finance director for an airline upholstery firm got into difficulty after 100 miles and the pair capsized in the home straight and were forced to walk over the line.

He said: "We had lucked out about with the weather but because it had been so dry there wasn't much river flow which added time on.

"I tore a bicep muscle after 100 miles and it became difficult and fatigue



kicked in – we fell in with about 300 metres left and the rescue boat came out.

"They took one look at us – we were absolutely shot – and they didn't let us get back in the canoe but we finished on foot which is legal and still counts."

The pair finished 53rd in the senior K2 category, out of 160 starters – 40 of whom withdrew during the race.

Mr Harte, who has three other children, Shaun, 17, Victoria, 16, and Lizzy, 10, has raised more than £3,400 so far through his efforts.

To donate go to [justgiving.com/fundraising/Will-Harte](http://justgiving.com/fundraising/Will-Harte).



Will Harte (front) and Neil Urquhart take on the 125-mile canoe race

Will Harte (right) and Neil Urquhart at Westminster, the finish of the 125-mile canoe race

## Tour of site to offer insight into war munitions factory

HISTORY buffs are being offered a rare glimpse into the mysterious site of Banbury's First World War munitions filling factory.

Last year Banbury Museum ran a series of tours to mark the 100th anniversary of the factory opening.

On Saturday, May 13 events and exhibitions manager Dale Johnston will return to the site to offer two more guided tours.

The factory was built following a shortage of ammunition faced by the British Army, when the demand for filled shells exceeded production.

National Filling Factories were built by the new Ministry of Munitions across England, including no.9, which opened on the outskirts of Banbury in 1917.

All shells used by the British batteries on the Italian front in 1917 were produced in Banbury but demand fell as the army switched to TNT.

The factory was bought by Cohen of London in 1919 to break down surplus war ammunition and in 1924 it closed.

The site is described by English Heritage as being of national and international importance. Mr Johnston said: "Every day thousands of drivers come along the M40 motorway past Banbury, not realising that right next to them was the first World War One munitions factory."

The tours run at 9.15am and 2.45pm. For more information visit [banburymuseum.org](http://banburymuseum.org)

## Raise issues at next town council event

RESIDENTS with issues to flag up or questions to ask of their local representatives are invited to the next Banbury Town Council monthly surgery.

Councillors Arash Fatemian and Barry Richards will be on hand in the town hall from 10am to noon on Saturday, May 6.

There is no need to make an appointment, just turn up on the day.

## General Election to delay decisions on hospital



Keith Strangwood, chairman of the 'Keep the Horton General' group

CRUCIAL decisions on the landscape of healthcare in Oxfordshire are being put on hold because of the General Election.

Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group ended its consultation on phase one of NHS "transformation" plans this month and was due to go through reports on public feedback in May.

Due to purdah, which restricts what information can be made public for fear of influencing voters' decisions, the CCG will hold an extra meeting on June 20 to discuss the results and will make a decision on them on August 10, instead of July 27.

Phase one included plans to close 200 acute beds and centralise some stroke and critical care in Oxford, while giving outpatient capacity in Banbury a boost.

Keith Strangwood, chairman of the Keep the Horton General campaign, said:

"Purdah is something they do to avoid sticky situations but also it's used as an excuse not to sort things out. The CCG think it's a done deal anyway. In the meantime, the paint is falling off the walls in the maternity unit at the Horton."

More details at [tinyurl.com/lqwfd2z](http://tinyurl.com/lqwfd2z).

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## Delivery office opens Sunday

BANBURY'S Royal Mail delivery office and customer service point is now open on Sundays.

The office in Merton Street will be open every Sunday from 11am to 3pm, aiming to make it easier for online shoppers not at home during weekdays to get their parcels.

Customers can also send stamped parcels and letters during opening hours, which it is hoped will make life easier for small businesses.

## Attack in club

POLICE have urged a man who was knocked out in a nightclub to come forward.

The force said the victim was punched in the back of the head inside Moo Moo nightclub in Banbury. The man left the nightclub in High Street, after he was given first aid by staff after the attack at about 3am on Saturday. His injuries are unknown.

A man, 20, from Gloucestershire has been arrested on suspicion of assault and has been released under investigation.

## Stories project

CREATIVE arts students are set to become children's authors following a project run by a team of international illustrators.

The project started last week at Banbury and Bicester College and City of Oxford College.

Overall 160 students will produce their own illustrated stories which will be published in small print runs by European publishing houses.

The resulting library will be presented alongside an exhibition of some of the best artwork during the London Book Fair 2018.

PCC calls for more police to deal with five per cent rise in offences as the force faces funding cuts of £22m

# Concerning jump in crime fueled by surge in violence



**Michael Race**  
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CRIME across Oxfordshire is on the rise, with new figures revealing a jump of almost five per cent in reported offences including a surge in violent crime and shoplifting in Oxford.

For the final six months of 2016, 108,122 crimes in the county were reported to Thames Valley Police, compared to 103,413 over the same period in 2015 and 100,804 in 2014.

Anthony Stansfeld, police and crime commissioner for the region, admitted the figures are 'concerning'.

Reports of violent crimes, which resulted in someone being injured, increased by more than 60 per cent from 5,634 incidents in Oxfordshire in the final six months of 2014, to 9,035 for the same period in 2016.

In Oxford, reports of shoplifting, robbery, violent crimes and sex offences have also risen.

Mr Stansfeld said the increase in crime across the county, and in particular the city of Oxford, was a serious issue.

The Conservative politician said a large amount of violent crimes in which injury resulted was linked to people drinking excessively and taking Class A drugs.

He added: "I think it's concerning. Recording is much better today, but nevertheless, there seems to be a slight increase violent crime nationally, which is an issue.

"What worries me is violence with serious injury.

"The more officers you have the easier it is. We have had significant cuts but we have done our best not to cut the frontline.

"The trouble is the country cannot live beyond its means. Everything impinges on the police because we are the last resort. On the other hand we cannot go borrowing money to sort these problems out."

The new figures published by the Office for National Statistics come as Thames Valley Police brace themselves for cuts of £22m this year – on top of £88m already stripped away from the force over the past six years.

The funding reductions from the Government mean the force has 4,200 police officers, compared to 4,434 in 2010, across the region.

Stating crime was still 'relatively low' in the county compared to other areas, Mr Stansfeld said ever since 'relaxed drinking hours' were introduced, there had been a lot more of a 'violence problem'.

He added he did not support police cells being based in Abingdon, which he said took officers away from policing the 'night-time economy'.

The force's federation, the body that represents rank-and-file officers, previously warned Thames Valley Police was 'broke' and may have to give up policing pubs, clubs and investigating certain thefts if it is to 'survive'.

Sergeant Graham Smith, the former federation chairman, officers would have to 'pull back on policing the night-time economy', adding changes to licensing laws had been made without

thinking about 'pressures' it would put on policing.

He added: "The reality is over the next three or four years we're going to spend our savings.

"The reserve that we have will disappear. Then there will be some things that we will not be able to do."

He added: "There are all sorts of other areas where policing is going to have to push back and say, 'Actually it's not our responsibility anymore; it is down to you – we haven't got the resources to do it'."

In January, extended opening hours for The Bullingdon in Cowley Road, Oxford, was refused after fears it would increase pressure on the police.

The Bullingdon initially wanted to be able to serve alcohol until 4am on Fridays and Saturdays instead of the current 2.30am closing time.

But Oxford City Council rejected the application after the force said policing in the area was in a 'delicate state'.

Acting Sergeant Neil Bouse said at the time there had been a '21 per cent increase in violent crimes' which would be 'likely to further increase' if a greater number of people were under the influence of alcohol.

In the Cherwell district, reports of criminal damage and arson increased by 37 per cent from 2,719 reports in the final six months of 2014 to 3,719 reports during the same period in 2016.

Thames Valley Police declined to comment on the figures by the Office for National Statistics, but said they would be releasing their '12-month statistics' next week.

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# Crash stats show most dangerous parts of A34

Safety upgrades to dual carriageway needed 'urgently', county MPs warn

**Matt Oliver**  
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HIGHWAY bosses are preparing an action plan to prevent more crashes on the A34 after a safety review revealed the road's crash blackspots.

Early findings of the work show collisions were concentrated on the stretch of carriageway between Oxford and Bicester, as well as from Milton to East Ilsley.

From January 2011 to November 2016, there were 42 crashes alone on the stretch on road north of Pear Tree and another 32 at the Wendlebury Interchange.

Analysis also found that 157 collisions happened on the northbound carriageway between the M4 and the M40, almost twice the number that took place on the southbound carriageway, at 85.

Oxfordshire's MPs met with Highways England on Monday to discuss the findings and have also agreed to lobby Lord Adonis, chairman



Traffic in fog on the A34

Picture: Jon Lewis

of the National Infrastructure Commission, to support an upgrade to the dual-carriageway. Oxford East MP Andrew Smith said: "These statistics, and the cost in human misery they reflect, underline the overwhelming case, both on safety and economic grounds, both for the quickest possible action to improve safety, and the need for a major upgrade of the whole route."

Robert Courts, Witney MP, added: "The A34, alongside the A40, is a key route for

many West Oxfordshire residents and it is vital that it is made safer."

Highways England is considering measures that can be deployed quickly as well as those which will take longer, Mr Smith said yesterday.

Short-term changes could include electronic signs, new gantries and possibly speed cameras, which campaigners say are needed urgently.

Meanwhile, he said work to upgrade the road's length to 'expressway' standard – part of plans for the £3.5bn Ox-

ford-Cambridge Expressway – could also include changes to make it safer, such as adding lanes and lay-bys.

Last year Roads Minister John Hayes hinted the Government could consider making the A34 a motorway if it thought the change was necessary in the long-term.

The trunk road carries almost 80,000 vehicles a day and has been described as 'no longer fit for purpose'.

There was an outcry over safety last August, when a multi-vehicle pile-up at Hinksey Hill injured 13 people including three-year-old Isla Wiggins, who died in hospital.

In another crash just two weeks earlier at East Ilsley, Tracy Houghton, her sons Ethan, 13, and Josh, 11, and her partner's 11-year-old daughter Aimee Goldsmith, from Bedfordshire, died in an eight-vehicle crash. Twelve others were injured. Shortly after, Mr Hayes told Highways England to carry out a safety review. A report, seen by the Oxford Mail, said the authority will aim to present options by June.



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# Rogue blood scandal probe call

'This scandal amounts to a criminal cover-up on an industrial scale'

**Hannah Somerville**  
hannah.somerville@nqo.com

FAMILIES and victims of the NHS contaminated blood scandal have demanded a public inquiry and an end to 'constant contempt'.

Patients at the Oxford Haemophilia Centre at the Churchill Hospital in Headington were among about 7,500 people infected with hepatitis C and HIV from tainted blood products in the 1970s and 1980s, which to date are believed to have led to the deaths of 2,500 British haemophiliacs.

On Wednesday former Labour health secretary Andy Burnham called for a Hillsborough-style public inquiry into the scandal.

Speaking at a Commons debate, he said: "From what I know, this scandal amounts to a criminal cover-up on an industrial scale."

"If the great British public knew the real story here... demands for full and fair compensation simply would not be able to be resisted by the Government."

Louisa Paintin, 42, has been an active member of the Tainted Blood campaign since her father Fred Paintin died in January 2000 at the age of 57.

The company secretary at Hook Norton Brewery attended the Ox-



Louisa Paintin, whose father Fred died aged 57 after receiving contaminated blood products decades before

ford centre for weekly treatment and was infected with hepatitis C in the late 1970s.

Miss Paintin said: "It caused such bad scarring to his liver that he developed liver cancer."

"He was put on the transplant list, went back in again, and the cancer

had grown hugely so he was struck off the list. Then he had two weeks to live."

"Our doctor at the time fought to get 'Due to infected blood products' on his death certificate. He said 'One day this will come out and I want that written.'"



Janette Johnson whose 15-year-old son, Graham, died after being given blood contaminated with HIV

Since then the family have joined the campaign for a full public inquiry into the disaster and full compensation for all victims.

In the Commons Nicola Blackwood, the MP for Oxford West and Abingdon and a junior minister in the Department of Health, resisted

calls for a fresh inquiry.

She said: "The government believe that setting up a panel would detract from the work we are doing to support sufferers and their families without providing any benefit."

But Miss Paintin, who lives in Warwickshire, said: "I felt like she was reading off a sheet of paper. There was no emotion, compassion, or even interest."

"Whatever anybody has been given is not compensation because they haven't admitted liability, and money is not going to bring anybody back."

"The people that are still living - and I use that term loosely because they are on all sorts of medication - need dignity, not this constant contempt. If they have nothing to be scared of let's get it out in the open. There is a massive call for one and that's why they won't give us one."

In 2014 Witney residents including David Leadbetter, who was infected with hepatitis C in the 1970s, and Janette Johnson, whose son Graham died aged 15 after contracting HIV from treatment in Oxford, campaigned for proper compensation and recognition for victims.

No government, health or pharmaceutical body in the UK has admitted liability for the scandal.

Although the Government has committed £150m for an 'infected blood payment scheme' up until 2020/21, no compensation has ever been paid. It also emerged on Wednesday that in 1982 the Oxford Haemophilia Centre sent a letter to all haemophilia directors in England.

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# Childcare double whammy

Childcare price rises and shortage of nursery school places looms

Luke Sproule  
lsproule@nqo.com

HARD-PRESSED parents face a double whammy of childcare price rises and a shortage of nursery school places from September.

Nurseries have warned that the new Government policy, offering 30 hours' free childcare, is not properly funded and could force them to put up childcare fees by as much as 10 per cent.

This would leave parents, already struggling to afford childcare costs of up to £1,000 a month, further out of pocket.

There are also fears that many nurseries will choose not to offer the extra free hours, leaving parents scrabbling to find places.

Sarah Steel, founder and managing director of The Old Station Nursery firm, employs 150 staff across seven children's nurseries, including five in Oxfordshire.

Ms Steel said her nursery firm is already struggling with a shortfall between the amount of funding provided by the council for parents of three and four-year-olds, eligible for 15 hours of free childcare a week.

The number of free childcare hours for working parents will double to 30 from September and Ms Steel believes this will make it



Sarah Steel, founder and managing director of The Old Station Nursery

impossible for many nurseries to break even.

Nurseries will receive £4.01 per hour per child from Oxfordshire County Council from September but Ms Steel says the true costs of staff, snacks, nappies and food is nearer £5-6 per child.

Bosses say an added strain is the new higher national minimum wage, which came into force on April 6, pushing up wages from £7.20 to £7.50 an hour.

Ms Steel, a member of the National Day Nurseries Association policy board, estimated the minimum wage increase will add 10 per cent to the overall cost of her firm's payroll.

She believes she may have to put up parents' nursery fees by 10 per cent.

Ms Steel said: "We are losing money per child and that's not sustainable, so the only way we can balance this out is to charge parents more."

"We would like to pay all our employees more because they are absolutely worth it but our hands are tied by what the Government pays us."

She added: "We will be struggling, so the cost will be passed on to parents."

"Lots of parents won't be able to afford that increase and may find

the cost of nursery going up will make it not worth working."

The National Day Nurseries Association has called for an increase in Government funding for the free childcare scheme.

An NDNA survey showed one in five day-care nurseries nationally will not deliver the Government's 30 free hours scheme, leaving 50,000 children across the country without places.

NDNA chief executive Purnima Tanuku said: "Because the 30 'free' hours policy is underfunded, many nurseries told us they will turn their backs on this expansion."

"It is time the Government stopped promising parents 'free' childcare hours unless they are prepared to invest the money needed."

The Old Station Nursery's latest branch at Oxford Science Park was opened in January by Early Years Minister Caroline Dinenage.

Ms Steele said she had explained the problem to the Minister.

She said: "We tell them our problem whenever we meet and ask them to reconsider the funding the provide."

"It is all a bit smoke and mirrors."

Speaking earlier this month Ms Dinenage said: "As part of our Plan for Britain we want to make this a country that works for everyone, not just the privileged few, so that means removing the barriers facing parents struggling to balance their jobs with the cost of childcare."

"This investment will deliver more childcare places to working parents, giving them the benefits of 30 hours free childcare while giving





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# Katherine is no way a Lady

**LADY MACBETH** (15, 89 mins)  
*Drama/Romance.* Florence Pugh, Cosmo Jarvis, Paul Hilton, Christopher Fairbank, Naomi Ackle. Director: William Oldroyd.  
Hell is murky, but the rugged, windswept landscapes of Northumberland are grimmer still in director William Oldroyd's impressive debut feature.  
Adapted by scriptwriter Alice Birch from Nikolai Leskov's 19th-century Russian novella, *Lady Macbeth Of The Mtsensk*, this gripping tragedy resets the sex-fuelled skulduggery to Victorian England, where women are treated as commodities by glowering husbands. Disobedience is punishable with retribution and humiliation behind closed doors, where bruises can be concealed beneath corsets or voluminous gowns.  
The anti-heroine of *Lady Macbeth*, portrayed with scorching intensity by 19-year-old Florence Pugh, openly defies these well-worn social conventions to pursue her own selfish agenda, leaving devastation and a mounting body count in her wake.  
When her snarling father-in-law demands, "Where's your husband?" she meets his coldness with venom and snaps, "Wherever you put him."  
Pugh is beguiling in the demanding central role, replete with an unwavering accent, and she commits fearlessly to breathless sex scenes with co-star Cosmo Jarvis that light the fuse on explosive desires, percolating beneath the surface.  
Teenage bride Katherine (Pugh) is sold by her father as part of a property deal and she is consigned to a miserable, loveless marriage to a swarthy brute called Alexander (Paul Hilton), whose father Boris (Christopher Fairbank) runs the local colliery.  
When Alexander and Boris are unexpectedly called away to deal with an explosion at the colliery, Katherine seeks out excitement in the company of rebellious groomsmen Sebastian (Jarvis), whose cocksure swagger kindles sparks of an extra-marital affair.

Katherine brazenly flaunts Sebastian in front of the other staff, including her maid Anna (Naomi Ackle), unconcerned by the potential stain on her reputation.  
Boris and Alexander return unexpectedly and the forbidden lovers snigger in the face of shame to forge a murderous pact that will allow them to retain their lofty position in the household.  
"You know I shan't be parted from you, Sebastian," gushes Katherine to her paramour. "I'd rather stop you breathing than have you doubt how I feel."  
Filmed on location in County Durham, *Lady Macbeth* is largely faithful to the plotting of the source text, apart from an emotionally chilly denouement that showcases Pugh's mastery of her character's poisonous emotions.  
Supporting performances are solid and Oldroyd spares his leading cast few blushes in scenes of wanton carnal desire.  
Production design, including Holly Waddington's costumes, evokes the period with stylish restraint.  
**LOWRIDERS** (12A, 98 mins)  
Released: April 28 (UK & Ireland, selected cinemas)  
Filmed on location in Los Angeles, *Lowriders* is a drama which explores the dynamics of a fractured family who are heavily involved in the culture of customising classic cars. Recovering alcoholic Miguel (Demian Bichir) runs a car repair business which he hopes to pass on to his boy Danny (Gabriel Chavarria). Unfortunately, the lad is more interested in expressing himself through street art accompanied by his good friend Chuy (Tony Revolori). The two young men are arrested for graffiti and Miguel insists that Danny must pay off his fine by working in the garage.  
Soon after, Danny's older brother Francisco aka Ghost (Theo Rossi) is released from prison and resumes a war of attrition against his father and new stepmother Gloria (Eva Longoria). Ghost attempts to turn Danny against the old man by asking his younger brother to paint his street art on the bonnets of a rival

car club. Danny is torn between his father and his brother, and fissures reappear in the family dynamic.  
**HEAL THE LIVING** (12A, 104 mins)  
Released: April 28 (UK & Ireland, selected cinemas)  
Adapted from Maylis de Kerangal's novel, *Heal The Living* is a tender and contemplative French drama about a teenager and a middle-aged woman, who are unexpectedly linked by tragedy. Simon (Gabin Verdet) loves to ride the surf with his pals and they head out early one morning to catch the best waves. On the way home, the young men are involved in a head-on collision and Simon is thrown through the windscreen. The lad's mother Marianne (Emmanuelle Seigner) and her estranged husband Vincent (Koolhaas) rush to the hospital where surgeon Pierre Revol (Bouli Lanners) delivers devastating news: their beautiful boy is brain dead and is being kept alive by machines. Organ donation consultant Thomas Remige (Tahar Rahim) speaks to the traumatised parents about the possibility of harvesting Simon's organs to help other patients. Marianne and Vincent eventually agree and across the country, talented musician Claire (Anne Dorval) receives a telephone call to let her know that medics may have found a replacement for her failing heart.  
**SUNTAN** (18, 104 mins)  
A middle-aged doctor's infatuation with a teenage patient spirals out of control in director Argyris Papadimitropoulos' unsettling character study. Forty-something doctor Kostis (Makis Papadimitriou) moves to the Greek island of Antiparos to become the community's new medic. Outside of the holiday season, the island boasts around 800 residents, so Kostis won't be run off his feet. However, at the height of summer, hundreds of sun-seeking tourists flock to Antiparos for wild, drunken nights of fun. One day, 21-year-old visitor Anna (Elli Tringou) arrives in Kostis' clinic for treatment. Her nubile skin sparks desire in Kostis and he begins to stalk Anna and her friends.



Florence Pugh as Katherine in *Lady MacBeth*



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## Cake Bookworm

**Swimmer Among The Stars** by Kanishk Tharoor is published in hardback by Picador, priced £12.99 (ebook £7.59).  
What is more important to identity: how we see ourselves, or how others see us? Our abilities, or the role we play in society? Which is the stronger definition? Answers to these questions shift within this dazzling first book of short stories by New York City-based writer Kanishk Tharoor, who cherry-picks from Indian history and culture to imbue his prose with a quiet confidence that the reader will follow, even if they do not grasp the full significance. This is epitomised in the title tale, which explores the relationship between an old woman and her childhood language, of which she is the final speaker. She bamboozles academics by creating new words that they may never understand – questioning the beauty and purpose of verbal communication. Referring to protagonists by

their job or function, rather than a name, both recalls the caste system and transforms them into fairytale characters – even if they are an elephant trainer sent to direct their steed from India to Morocco, or a UN ambassador orbiting the remains of a flooded Earth on a space hotel, or a coal miner whose portrait is taken for a Western magazine. Each story expertly explores a tantalisingly different worldview – resulting in a near-perfect collection.  
**9/10**  
**Reservoir 13** by Jon McGregor is published in hardback by 4th Estate, priced £14.99 (ebook £8.99).  
A thirteen-year-old girl goes missing while staying in the Peak District with her family for New Year. This is the opening of Jon McGregor's fourth novel, *Reservoir 13*, but don't be fooled by the initial suggestion of crime drama – this unconventional narrative

is not interested in pace, plot, or answering any of the questions it poses. With a chapter for each year following the disappearance, inhabitants of the rural village find their dreams and imagination haunted by 'Rebecca, or Becky, or Bex'. However, mostly, life carries on as before and McGregor's collage-style narration delves in and out of different experiences within the community. We dwell briefly on a scene in the life of a complicated marriage, a dying parent, a lonely widow, a struggling farmer – before moving on. As the details cumulate over the years, poignant stories slowly emerge. In amongst all this, McGregor includes details of the surrounding natural world; the badger sett, fox family, bird movements, and seasonal changes. It all makes for a unique reader experience, which can be enjoyable if you have the patience to withstand the teasingly sparse plot.  
**7/10**



# Awards ceremony to honour unsung heroes in the county

Nominees from community groups and charities invited to glitzy evening at Town Hall

**Sophie Grubb**  
sgrubb@nqo.com

A CEREMONY will celebrate staff and volunteers behind some of Oxfordshire's most valued community causes.

Charities and non-profit groups will congregate at the annual Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA) Awards this month, which hail unsung heroes of the county.

Shortlisted nominees have been invited to a glitzy evening at Oxford Town Hall on Tuesday, May 9, where winners will be announced in a host of categories including charity of the year and volunteer of the year.

Grant Hayward, who has helped to organise the event in previous years, said: "I have a passion in sharing responsibility for social needs, and there are some creative ways to do that. The awards bring charity and voluntary sectors together."

The Eynsham resident is among several sponsors of the event this year, through his consultancy and training company Collaberant.



Charities and community groups gather for the OCVA awards

Entries for the awards ended last month but were open to charities, voluntary and community groups, as well as not-for-profit enterprise groups and non-statutory groups.

Mr Hayward said: "There is an awful lot of fantastic work being done by people across Oxfordshire. Groups that are underfunded depend on volunteers doing tremen-



Julie Baker, trustee of OCVA

dous work. This is a great opportunity to celebrate that and give those people the credit they deserve.

"I'm a great supporter of the competition – it brings organisations

across sectors together and gives them support."

The awards will be presented in certificate form by OCVA's president Tim Stevenson, who is also currently serving as Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire.

In previous years winners have included Pegasus Theatre in Oxford, which provides drama and dance classes for youngsters, and food distribution charity Oxford Food Bank.

OCVA trustee Julie Baker said: "The awards celebrate the impact made by local people in the community. It's really about the most outstanding charities and volunteers."

"It's a celebratory event that notes how hard people work in the community and a recognition of the importance of their vital community work. We are very much looking forward to another great year for this very special event."

Categories at the ceremony will include Oxfordshire charity of the year, the award for working together, best community project, environmental award, innovation award, management of volunteers, best new group and good neighbour.

Several categories will have a runner-up as well as a winner.

The shortlist has not been made public yet this year but those who have caught judges' attention have been asked to attend.

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- ✓ Dublin, the world's friendliest capital
- ✓ A brief call is made at Cobh

- ✓ Explore pretty Honfleur
- ✓ Traditional cuisine, stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board leisure facilities
- ✓ 10 nights' full board accommodation on board *Columbus*

\*Book by 31 May 2017. Offer subject to availability & may be withdrawn at any time.

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# Oxfordshire Listings

## Events

### THURSDAY

**Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers:** Meet at the layby on the B4030, Caulcott. A leisurely seven-mile walk from Caulcott taking in the Heyfords. Bring a picnic lunch. 10am. Free. 01869 600434.

**Boules:** The Maytime Inn, Asthall. First session for fortnightly boules tournament. Prize to each week's winner. 6.30pm. Free. 01993 822068.

**Theatre talk:** Corn Exchange, Market Place, Wallingford. Peter Flannery. Award-winning Wallingford writer will talk about his career in theatre, film and TV, including *Our Friends in the North* and *Inspector George Gently*. Followed by a Q&A. In aid of the Corn Exchange Roof Appeal. 8pm. £12. 01491 825000.

**Ramblers walk:** Church Lane, Horton cum Studley. Leisurely five-mile walk to Bernwood Meadows to view green winged orchids. Walk not suitable for dogs. 10am. 01865 358905.

**FRIDAY**

**1940's music and dance:** Chesterton Community Hall, 2 Geminus Road, Chesterton. Dance and listen to 1940's music. Prize for best male and female 1940's dress. 7.30pm. £10. 01869 241581.

**Race Night:** The George Hotel, High Street, Wallingford. Six races shown on screen. Takings will be shared among the winners and half will be donated to Style Acre. 7pm. £10. 01491 827593.

**SATURDAY**

**Archaeology Tour:** Dorchester Museum Entrance, High Street, Dorchester on Thames. 10,000 years of Dorchester: a guided walk through the archaeology and history of the village. This 90-minute tour will require walking some distance on uneven ground. See [www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com) 10.30am. £6.

**Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers:** Meet at the cemetery, Charlton. A leisurely 7.5-mile walk from Charlton to Walton Grounds and Astrop Hill. Bring a picnic lunch. 10am. Free. 01869 601442.

**Charity Zumbathon:** Williams Conference Centre, Station Road, Grove. A three-hour dance session to Latin inspired music. All proceeds to MND (Motor Neurones Disease), Special Effect and SIA (Spinal Injuries Association). 2pm. £5 adults, £3 children (13 yrs and under).

**Christine Wallace Bake Off Demonstrations:** Dorchester Manor House, Manor Farm Road, Dorchester on Thames. 11am and 1.30pm. A one-hour baking masterclass including a showstopper dessert followed by a 30min discussion and then coffee and a cake tasting in The Manor House Garden. Places are strictly limited so book early at [dorchesterfestival.com](http://dorchesterfestival.com). 11am. £12.

**Coffee Morning:** St Edburg's Church, Church Street, Bicester. 10am. Free. 01869 323375.

**Food and Gift Fair:** Dorchester Abbey Cloister Gardens, High Street, Dorchester on Thames. 11am. Free.

**Moth Night:** Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Uncover the wonderful world of moths during an evening of moth trapping. 8pm. £6 per adult, £3 per child. 01865 407792.

**Murder Mystery Dining Train:** Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway, Station Approach, Station Road, Chinnor. Murder, Mystery and Suspense – solve the clues on a three-courses evening dining train. 6.15pm. £45. 07979 055366.

**Nick Galer Cooking with Seasonal Produce:** Willoughby House, 73 High Street, Dorchester on Thames. Demonstrations at 11am and 1.30pm. Nick demonstrates a dinner menu and

talks about his passion for getting us all cooking with local, seasonal produce. See [dorchesterfestival.com](http://dorchesterfestival.com) £18.

**Nuneham Courtenay Jumble Sale:** Nuneham Courtenay Village Hall, A4074, Nuneham Courtenay. Book a table for £6 or donate unwanted items for the village hall funds. 2pm. 20p. 01865 343459.

**OMEGA Afternoon Tea:**Village Hall, Henley Road, Sandford on Thames. A special social group for children, young people with ME/CFS and their parents and all OMEGA members. 2.45pm. Free. 01491 838727.

**Open Garden, Plant Sale, Teas, Art Exhibitions:** St Ethelwold's House, East St Helen Street, Abingdon. 2.30pm. Free. 01865 244146.

**Plant Sale:** St Peter's Church, Newlands Avenue, Didcot. 10.30am. Free. 0235 210525.

**Walk (Fieldpaths):** Old Kiln, Nettlebed. SU701868 6 miles A leisurely walk to see bluebells, via Berrick Trench and Priors and Park Woods. Bring refreshments for en route break. Assistance dogs only. 10am. 07799 001899.

**SUNDAY**

**Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers:** Meet at the church, Steeple Barton, Steeple Barton. A moderately difficult 11-mile circular walk from Steeple Barton via Kiddington and Glympton Park. Bring a picnic lunch. 10am. Free. 01865 375110.

**Blackthorn Car Boot Sale:** Blackthorn Car Boot, B4011, Bicester to Thame Road, Bicester. Sellers £5 any size vehicle. 10am. Buyers free. 07786 607097.

**Blenheim 7k:** Blenheim Palace, Woodstock. In addition to the main 7k event there is one mile for under 15s and four miles for wheelchairs and buggies. Medals for all finishers and trophies for the winners and teams... 10.30am. Advance £16.50/£10 on the day £25 and £15. 07855 086447.

**Claire Andersson Midsummerfest:** 14 Watling Lane, Dorchester on Thames. Demonstrations at 11am and 1.30pm. The demo will walk you through the art of home-curing along with some of the side dishes which you would find at a Swedish Midsummer feast. See [dorchesterfestival.com](http://dorchesterfestival.com) for more information and to book tickets. 11am. £15.

**Comic Art Masterclass:** Dorchester Abbey Guest House, High Street, Dorchester on Thames. Produce your own comic strip. 1-3pm and 3.30-5.30pm. See [www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com). £10.

**Ewelme Watercress Beds and Nature Reserve Open Afternoon:** Watercress Centre, The Street, Ewelme. 2pm. £3 adults, accompanied children free.

**Flexicare Fundraising Walk 2017:** Snells Hall, Church Street, East Hendred. Two circular walking routes of five or 10 miles up to the Ridgeway or a wheelchair/buggy route around East Hendred. Raising funds for Flexicare. 9am. Donations. 01865 321881.

**Long Wittenham Fun Run:** The Plough, High Street, Long Wittenham. 5km off-road route on trails around Neptune Wood and Paradise Wood, starting and finishing at The Plough. All ages and abilities welcome. More details [www.longwittenham.com](http://www.longwittenham.com). 11am. £5 for adults, £1 for children. 01865 407261.

**North Moreton Fete:** North Moreton Recreation Ground, Bear Lane, North Moreton. To be opened by Bill Heine. 2pm. £1 adults, children free.

**Out of the Blue workshops:** Dorchester Abbey, High Street, Dorchester on Thames. All-male a cappella student group from Oxford Universities fun afternoon workshops for children and adults. The workshop costs £8 but includes your ticket for the performance. 2pm workshop 8-14yrs –

**To get an event of any kind listed here, enter the details into our easy-to-use online database at [thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/events](http://thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/events)**

**Please add your event no later than ten days before the day of publication.**

£16/£14, 3.30pm workshop over 14 & adults – £25/£20. See [www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com)

**Sunday Drop-in – Go Wild!:** Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Discover what wildlife lives on the nature reserve, including what's been caught in the moth traps set up at Moth Night. £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free. 10am. 01865 407792.

**Try Tennis For Free:** Cholsey Tennis Club, Station Road, Cholsey. 10am. 01491 651477.

**Wallingford Vehicle Rally & Parade:** The Kinicroft, High Street, Wallingford. Classic vehicle parade followed by static show. 10.30am. Free. 07729 982464.

### MONDAY

**Make Lace Mondays:** Vale & Downland Museum, 19 Church Street, Wantage. Every second Monday of the month. All materials provided for a taster session. 1.30pm. Free but asked to support the museum cafe. 01235 771447.

**TUESDAY**

**Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers:** Meet at the car park opposite The Swan public house, Islip. A gentle, leisurely 4.5-mile circular walk from Islip towards Woodestate and back. 10am. Free. 07939 826412.

**Green Woodworking Course:** Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. A six-week course where you'll make your own stool to take home. £75 for six sessions; booking essential. 6.30pm. 01865 407792.

**Ramblers walk:** Village car park, Chalgrove. Leisurely four-mile walk via Brightwell Baldwyn with tea and cakes at Artweeks exhibition in Chalgrove church at the end. Walk not suitable for dogs. 10am. 01865 891147.

### WEDNESDAY

**Adoption Information Event:** Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot. Learn more about adopting, the adoption process and how Adoption Focus can support you. A brief presentation before the opportunity to talk, in private, with an experienced adoption social worker. Booking is required for this event. 5pm. 08455 190539.

**Cotswold Decorative & Fine Arts Society:** Bradwell Village Hall, Bradwell Village, Burford. 'The Beauty of Frames' by Julia Korner. 10.15am. Non-members welcome (suggested donation £10).

**Harwell WI:** Cherry Village Hall, High Street, Harwell. The May meeting will be discussing this year's Resolutions ('Loneliness' and 'Plastic Soup - keeping microfibres out of our oceans'). This will be followed by a representative from OxSAR talking about 'Lowland Search & Rescue'. Everyone welcome. 7.30pm. Free. 01235 835430.

**Oxfordshire Railway Society:** Seacourt Day Centre, Seacourt Road, Botley. 'Great Western Railway'. An illustrated talk by David Pinder, Station Manager Oxford Area. Visitors welcome. 7.30pm. £3.

## Music

### THURSDAY

**The North Wall, South Parade, Summertown:** Mor Karbasi. Israeli singer. 8pm. £16. 01865 319450.

**Dorchester Abbey, High Street,**

**Dorchester on Thames:** Wind Serenades – Mozart and Gounod. Pre-supper concert. Pavlova Wind Quintet. £10. 07775 904626.

**The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford:** Byron Wallen. The Spin Jazz Club. Jazz trumpet accompanied by The Spin Trio. 8.30pm. £10, £8 (concs), £6 (students).

**O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Morgan Heritage & Etana, J Boog. Grammy-winning reggae fusion band. 6pm. £28.

**The Cock Inn, Combe:** Nick Gill. Classic jazz and ragtime piano/vocals. 8-11pm. Free.

**The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford:** Pete Fryer Band. Local blues-rock legend. 9pm. Downstairs bar. Free.

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Troy Redfern Band. Haven Club. Blues. 8pm. £8 (adv), £10 (otd), £5 (student).

### FRIDAY

**Angel, Market Square, Witney:** Glam Res. Glam rock tribute. 9pm. Free. 01993 703238.

**Fox, Enstone Road, Middle Barton:** The Summits. 9pm. Free. 01869 340338.

**O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Holly Redford Jones, Chalk, Juniper Nights, Semi Urban Fox, Fuji. Jazz, electro-acoustic, alt-rock and punk. 6pm. £8.

**New Theatre, 2 George Street, Oxford:** Showaddywaddy. Retro rock and r&r 70s hitmakers. 7.30pm. £22-£24.

### SATURDAY

**Dorchester Abbey, High Street, Dorchester on Thames:** The Tallis Scholars. 7pm. £28/£23/£18.

**O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Bigfoot, Regulus, New Generation Superstars, Hell's Gazelles. Rock/metal. 7pm. £12.

**Chipping Norton Theatre, 2 Spring Street, Chipping Norton:** Darkside. Rock band. 7.45pm. £17.50.

**O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Ward Thomas. Nashville-based twin sister country duo. 6.30pm. £16.50.

### SUNDAY

**Dorchester Abbey, High Street, Dorchester on Thames:** Out of the Blue. Oxford's all-male a cappella group. 7pm. £17/£12 (under 14 half price).

**St Mary's Church, Church Green, Witney:** Jubilate Choral Concert. 6.30pm. £10 in advance, £12 on the door. 01993 773283.

**Oxford Wine Café, 38 South Parade, Summertown:** Ben Holder Quartet. Violin/voice, guitar, bass and drums. Jazz. 6.30-9pm. Free.

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Bloodshot, Silk Road, 1000 Chains, Echo 4 Four, Black Candy Bloodstock. Rock and metal battle of the bands. 7pm. £5 (adv), £7 (otd).

### MONDAY

**Rose Revived, Newbridge, Witney:** Alvin Roy's Reeds Unlimited. Jazz. 7.30-10pm. Free.

**TUESDAY**

**New Beaconsfield Hall, Station Road, Shipton under Wychwood:** Anna & Elizabeth. Mountain ballads. Wychwood Folk Club. 8pm. £10 in advance, £12 on the door. 01993 831427.

**O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford:** J Hus. MOBO nominated rapper. 7pm. £15.50. The Japanese House. Indie-pop singer-songwriter. 7pm. £10.

### WEDNESDAY

**The Talkhouse, Wheatley Road, Stanton St John:** The Tim Dawes Trio with Niamh McNally. 8.30pm. Free. 01865 351654.

**O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford:** The Magic Gang. Brighton-based grunge-pop quartet. 6pm. £10.

**SJE Arts at the church of S. John the Evangelist, 109 Iffley Road, Oxford:** Quercus. Folk-jazz fusion with June Tabor, Iain Ballamy and Huw Warren. 8pm. £22, £17 (concs).

**The Cellar, Frewin Court, Oxford:** The Tuts, Rainbow Reservoir, Happy Accidents. Pop-punk. 7.30pm. £6 (adv), £8 (otd).

## Theatre

**Burton Taylor Studio, Beaumont Street, Oxford:** Until May 6, *TED: Retold*. 7.30pm. £7. May 9-13, *I Marcus*. A black comedy about the underbelly of youth culture that examines what lurks beneath the 'banter'. 7.30pm. £6. 01865 305305.

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** May 6, Adam Bloom, Javier Jarquin, Alistair Barrie and Inel Tomlinson. 7.45pm. £15.95. 01865 810000.

**The Old Fire Station, 40 George Street, Oxford:** May 5, *Ed Patrick: Junior Optimist*. Stand-up comedy. 8pm. £12/£10. May 6, *Great Train Robbery*. Scratchworks take on a classic tale with a twist. 7.30pm. £12/£10. Group of four: £35. May 9, *They Built It. No One Came*. 7.30pm. £12/£10. 01865 263990.

**Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford:** Until May 6, *Little Shop of Horrors*. 7.30pm. £11.50-£19. May 8, *Reduced Theatre Company*. 7.30pm. £19. May 10 and May 31, *Henning Wehn: Westphalia is not an option*. 7.30pm. £18. 01865 305305.

**New Theatre, George Street, Oxford:** May 10, *Russell Brand: Re:Birth*. 8pm. £31.65 plus £2.85 transaction fee. 0844 871 7615.

**The North Wall Arts Centre, South Parade, Summertown:** May 5, *Zero for the Young Dudes!* National Theatre Connections festival. 4pm. £4. May 5, *The Snow Dragons*. National Theatre Connections festival. 8pm. £4. May 10-11, *The Lounge*. 7.30pm. £14 (concession £12, members £10). 01865 319450.

**Chipping Norton Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton:** May 10-20, *The Island*. Drama of defiance and determination draws on the stories that linger from Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was held prisoner. 7.45pm. Tickets: £15, £13 conc. £5 U26. 01608 642350.

**Cornerstone Arts Centre, Station Road, Didcot:** May 6, *Opera Cocktail*. 7.30pm. £19. May 11-12, *Velvet Petal*. By Fleur Darkin. 7.30pm. £14. 01235 515144.

**Dorchester Abbey Festival Tent, High Street, Dorchester on Thames:** May 5, Dorchester Festival Comedy Night. Gary Delaney, Taylor Glenn, Caroline Mabey and Luke Toulson. See [www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com). 7.30pm. £12 (age guidance 16+).

**The Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury:** May 4, *Burton*. With Rhodri Miles as Richard Burton. 7.30pm. £14.50. May 6, *Morgan & West's Magic Show for Kids*. 2pm. £14.50. 01295 279002.



# CakeSport

banburycake.co.uk/sport



Banbury captain Lloyd Sabin is targeting a top-half finish in Division 1

## Sabin backs young stars

But the Banbury skipper calls for realism

BANBURY captain Lloyd Sabin is calling for realism this season after a turnover in players during the winter months.

The north Oxfordshire outfit have challenged for the Division 1 title in the Home Counties Premier League for the last couple of years.

But Banbury enter this campaign with a youthful side and a different target.

Former captain Luke Ryan, Hugo Darby, Karl Penhale and Tom Bradbeer have all moved on.

Sabin, who is only 22 himself, believes this year will

### CRICKET

be full of learning curves for his young side, starting on Saturday against Tring Park.

He said: "I think we're going to be a bit of a rebuilding job this year."

"It is a fairly new and inexperienced side and hopefully, if we're being realistic, we'll finish in the top half."

Sabin added: "Every single year our team gets younger and younger and that's staying the same."

"Ability-wise, they're good enough and it's about them having the confi-

dence to step up, play their own game and how we know they can."

Young bowlers Jack Wilkins and Jamie Curtis have joined Banbury, while former Pakistan international seamer Aizaz Cheema replaces Australian Kurtis Patterson as the side's overseas player.

Sabin added: "Fingers crossed, he (Cheema) will be here for the first game."

"I'm fairly happy with the standard he is at."

#### PLAYERS IN

J Wilkins (Buckingham Trn), J Curtis (Cumnor), A Cheema (Quetta Gladiators).

#### PLAYERS OUT

L Ryan (Spencer), H Darby (both Spencer), K Patterson, K Penhale (Aston Rowant), T Bradbeer (Northampton Saints).

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## STARS with Claire Petulengro

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**ARIES**  
Mar 21-Apr 19  
I can see from your stars that you can't get someone from your past off of your mind. What I can tell though Aries, is that they are only having a negative effect on what should be a positive frame of mind. It's time stand up and acknowledge who is not good for your life. By doing this you will find your life a much better place to be. Ring now to hear why you're allowed to flirt around the 22nd.

**TAURUS**  
Apr 20-May 20  
The very doors which were closed to you are the ones which will soon open. The question now is do you still want them to open? Aspects suggest maybe not. From the 11th onwards you learn you are meant for much better things in work and this could lead to some of you throwing in the towel where situations no longer 'do it' for you. Ring now for a surprise love forecast.

**GEMINI**  
May 21-Jun 20  
I know you've been finding it hard to relax lately, but I also know you've been unwilling to share your load. Change that this week Gemini and learn to work as a team. It's what your sign was born for. New attractions are forecast to be different from what you have gone for in the past. Go with it. This is the beginning of the rest of your life. Ring me now to make it special!

**CANCER**  
Jun 21-Jul 22  
Have you been taking on more than you should Cancer? Only you can be the one to answer this question with honesty. If you think you have, then this is the week to prioritise. Knowing what and who you want can save you from making mistakes when you are put under unexpected pressure. Ring now to hear how phone calls and texts promise good news.

**LEO**  
Jul 23-Aug 22  
I can see that others are lining up to give advice that you didn't ask for and don't even want. This could be to do with the fact that you have cast yourself in somewhat of a needy light. Look around you my friend and you will soon see that you are out the other side of what was bothering you. Time spent going over old paperwork can both earn and save you money. Ring now for a look at love.

**VIRGO**  
Aug 23-Sep 22  
I can see that you feel as if life has got the better of you. That has a lot to do with the fact that you have been following the lead of others and yet your sign is that of a leader, not a follower. Realise this and assert yourself. The direction you take with your life, both on a personal and a professional level, should be one of your own choosing. Ring now so I can tell you about a new admirer you've earned.

**LIBRA**  
Sep 23-Oct 22  
There is a great deal of indecision in your chart which is casting you as uncertain to the very faces you have spent so much of your time this year trying to convince of your decisiveness. Reworking figures can make something that wasn't affordable, attainable again. Ring now to hear how new towns and countries will soon beckon to your sign.

**SCORPIO**  
Oct 23-Nov 21  
There is a really addictive tie to your chart and, as much as that could see many of you indulging in things you shouldn't, it can also give you the energy and ability to focus on making your life a healthier place to be too. Careful of bad mouthing those you don't really know, as the stars show me that it can come back on you. Ring now to hear where your time and energy are best spent.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
Nov 22-Dec 21  
There is an air of excitement to your stars which will see you willing to do things and take chances which have never previously appealed to you. This is all due to the new and improved energy which Mars is placing within you. Use this week to attempt all of the things you have failed at before. This month could well be the making of you if you do. Ring now for focus and clear vision.

**CAPRICORN**  
Dec 22-Jan 19  
I know you have lost a lot of faith in a close one and I can understand why. What I don't understand though Capricorn, is why you continue to placate them. Know when enough is enough and move on with the pride which your sign is so famous for. Knowing what you want from those you deal with in work can save mixed messages and create a shortcut for you. Ring now. I have so much to tell you.

**AQUARIUS**  
Jan 20-Feb 18  
You've been awfully quiet lately Aquarius, but that's because you've been thinking, haven't you? What you're about to find out is that time is on your side, more than you thought. You also discover someone who was not on your side has changed allegiances and it's you they want to give their loyalty and time to. Ring now to hear how long distance travel is written in your stars.

**PISCES**  
Feb 19-Mar 20  
I know you're tired, but you and I also know that you've been taking on more than you should. Try to simplify your life this week, or you will only end up with more to cope with than you began with. By learning to say no (and you don't have to about when you say it) you can earn respect from others and respect for yourself. Ring now to hear how foreign languages enhance your work.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Announcements - Public Notices

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
SECTION 14(1)**

Notice of Temporary Traffic Order  
Adderbury, Tanners Lane & The Leys  
Prohibition of Through Traffic  
Date of Order: 15 May 2017  
Coming into force: 22 May 2017

This Order is being introduced because of water pipe replacement works which are anticipated to take 9 weeks to complete. The effect of the order is to temporarily prohibit any vehicle proceeding in the following sections of road - the works will be carried out in three phases: Phase 1 - Tanners Lane between junctions of Horn Hill Road and The Leys; Phase 2 - The Leys; and Phase 3 - Tanners Lane between the junctions of The Leys and Round Close Road. Appropriate traffic signs will be displayed to indicate when each closure phase is in force. Exemptions are included for emergency services and for the works and for access to premises which are only accessible from the closed section of road. The alternative route for traffic is via Horn Hill Road, Round Close Road and vice-versa.

This Order will remain in force for a maximum period of 18 months or until the works have been completed whichever is the sooner.

Traffic Regulations Team (Ref T4807/AC)  
for the Director for Infrastructure Delivery,  
County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND. 0345 310 1111.

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NEW

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**£825 pcm**  
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| communal entrance with security system | hallway | lounge | kitchen with integrated white goods | master bedroom with en-suite shower room and built in wardrobe | further double bedroom with built in wardrobe | bathroom | allocated parking | communal storage.  
Energy Rating C  
Unfurnished - Available 26th May 2017

**BARFORD ST MICHAEL**  
**£840 pcm**  
A well presented two bedroomed semi detached bungalow situated in this pretty village South of Banbury.  
| hallway | lounge | fitted kitchen | two double bedrooms | family bathroom | good sized gardens to front and rear | garage.  
Energy Rating F  
Unfurnished - Available 23rd May 2017

**WINDERTON**  
**£695 pcm**  
A newly decorated two bedroomed listed cottage with versatile accommodation in this pretty rural village to the West of Banbury.  
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Unfurnished - Available Immediately

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**£550 pcm**  
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**CULWORTH**  
**£750 pcm**  
A delightful middle terraced two bedroomed cottage located in this popular village East of Banbury.  
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Part Furnished - Available Immediately

L

**PARSONS STREET**  
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L

**THE MAGNOLIAS**  
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L

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L

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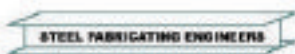
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# Motors - first for used cars

## Used Car Road Test

by Jonathan Crouch



# Three's company for the best 'urbanite'



CITROËN'S C3 supermini has always focused on comfort and value, along with an extra dash of the kind of innovation we expect from this enduring French brand. Here, we're going to look at the facelifted version of the second generation model, which sold between 2013 and 2016. It featured more efficient engines than the original post-2009 version of this design, a clever range of three cylinder 'Pure Tech' units that transformed its petrol proposition, plus a clutch of Airdream micro hybrid diesel models that'll cost just pennies to run. The result still isn't sporty but as before, the ride's great, the interior's smart and the boot's practical.

### The History

Citroën knows a thing or two about small family cars, especially those with a dash or two of character. Here, after all, is the marque that over sixty years ago, brought us the iconic 2CV, a model which established its maker as an innovator, an embracer of technology and a brand in tune with the fickle finger of fashion.

Over the years, we've seen further moments of shining innovation, design bravery and unadulterated quirkiness, but never really amongst Citroën superminis. The

Nineties Saxo was a rebadged Peugeot 106, while its first generation C3 successor was flimsy and forgettable. In the second generation C3 though, a car launched in 2009, we got a very different proposition. It wasn't a current-day 2CV but it was about as innovative as a practically-sized five-door modern supermini from this era was ever going to get. And therefore a proper Citroën.

Here, we focus on the lightly revised sleeker-looking version of this MK2 model we first saw in the Spring of 2012, Peugeot had introduced their all-new 208 supermini, completely with a high-tech range of 1.0 and 1.2-litre three cylinder petrol engines. This improved C3 got all the same technology, which meant that at last, it had a credible petrol-engined line-up. Previously, you had to stretch to a pricey HDi diesel if you wanted a really efficient version of this car.

Like its predecessor, this model was rather refreshing in its refusal to prioritise the 'sportiness' that other brands from this era seemed

to feel was necessary in their small runabouts. The French maker had its more dynamic three-door DS3 line to provide that. Which left this five-door C3 to create its own distinct, more laid-back market niche as something smartly fashionable that offered higher quality and greater comfort than a Fiesta, without the potential priceyness of a Polo. The facelifted MK2 model C3 sold from 2013 to 2016 before being replaced by an all-new third generation design.

### What To Look For

This particular era C3 hasn't experienced any significant reported problems to date. Examine for flaking of paint on the bumpers and check that the air conditioning works and that the pixels on the centre display are all good. Also check for rear bumper scrapes. Finally check that the Bluetooth pairs reliably with your phone handset. Otherwise, it's down to the usual things. So check that the service records have been properly stamped up. Look for signs of plastic scratches and dents around the interior caused by unruly children. And check for scrapes on the alloy wheels caused by distracted mums not paying attention properly when parking.

### On The Road

Small French cars used to ride beautifully, grip tenaciously and flow from corner to corner with relaxed, unflustered motion. As, by and large, this one does. It may come as news to some motoring journalists but most supermini buyers don't routinely want to throw their cars about as if they were on stage from the RAC Rally. What most of them would prefer is a model that rolls the red carpet over the average appallingly surfaced British road. As this one does.

The trick, which Citroën hasn't always mastered, is to offer this without inducing the kind of body-roll and handling woollyness that removes any element of enjoyment from the driving experience altogether. In this respect, this impressively refined C3 is a world away from its first generation predecessor and was further improved in this enhanced guise with an increase in the anti-roll bar rates by about 15% and an increase in the damping rates by around 20%. So it didn't roll and wallow as much as before. True, a Ford Fiesta from this era would still be a tauter, more eager proposition for enthusiastic drivers but this C3 we think, is the car a significant number of people would prefer to live with day-in, day-

out - though we would say that on longer trips, the seats could do with a little more support.

As for the changes to this improved second generation C3, well, most of them lie beneath the bonnet. For this enhanced MK2 model, Citroën was able to borrow the light, revvy little three cylinder 'Pure Tech' petrol engines from Peugeot's rival 208 supermini and they really transform this car's buying proposition for green pump buyers. First up is a 1.0-litre 68bhp unit that needs to be revved quite hard if you're to get anywhere near the quoted performance figures (rest to 62mph in 14.2s en route to just 101mph). Much better is the 1.2-litre 82bhp version of this unit. This delivers the same distinctive three cylinder thrum, but accompanies it with pokier performance, 62mph from rest taking 12.3s on the way to 108mph. It's a pity you only get a 5-speed manual gearbox though: on the open road, this car would be much more relaxing with a 6th speed.

### Overall

Overall then, this improved MK2 model C3 is a strong contender if you're looking for an affordable supermini from the 2013 to 2016 era. Best of all perhaps, it's a car that's distinctively Citroën.



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2008 08	<b>SUZUKI JIMNY 1.3 J1X Plus.</b> 3 Door, Dark Metallic Red. Local car. mileage, approximately 39000. Previous owner real car enthusiast, Exceptionally well looked after. Aircon, electric windows, electric mirrors, PAS. radio/CD, remote central locking etc. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. Hpi clear.....	<b>£4,295.00</b>
2008 58	<b>FORD FUSION STYLE CLIMATE TDCi.</b> Blue. Local car. 1400cc Diesel. £30 road tax for year. PAS. Electric windows and door mirrors. Remote central locking. Aircon.Radio/CD Etc. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. Hpi clear.....	<b>£2,795.00</b>
2006 56	<b>FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC.</b> Silver. 3 Door. Local car. Lovely condition. PAS. Aircon. Electric windows and door mirrors. Radio/CD Etc. Sold with a new MOT and a full service. Recent new cambelt fitted by ourselves. Hpi Clear.....	<b>£2,495.00</b>
2005 54	<b>ALFA ROMEO 156 JTS Veloce 2.0.</b> Silver Metallic. Black leather interior. Very nice condition throughout. Local car. Alloys. Air con. PAS. Radio/CD. Remote central locking. Electric windows Etc. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt kit. Hpi clear.....	<b>£2,195.00</b>
2004 54	<b>FORD FOCUS 1.8.</b> Metallic Blue. Previously sold by ourselves. PAS. Aircon. Radio/CD. Remote central locking. Electric Windows etc. Sold with a new MOT and a full service. Hpi clear.....	<b>£1,895.00</b>
2005 05	<b>PEUGEOT 307S.</b> 1.6cc. 5 door. Blue. Local car. Lovely condition. PAS. Electric windows. Electric door mirrors. Radio/CD. Aircon. Alloys. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. Hpi Clear.....	<b>£1,795.00</b>
2003 03	<b>FIAT PUNTO 1.9 DIESEL.</b> Metallic dark red. 5 doors. Previously supplied by ourselves. Air-conditioning. PAS. Central locking. Electric windows. Radio. Very tidy and economical car for it's age. Sold with a new MOT a full Service and a new cambelt. Hpi clear.....	<b>£995.00</b>

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